Cwrcelyn Rural District Council.

Medical Officer's Annual Report

for 1937.

AMLWCH:
Printed by W. T. Williams & Son, Caxton Printing Works.

GWYNDY,

AMLWCH,

September 15, 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the Twrcelyn Rural District Council,

Councillor Mrs. Morris and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report upon the Health and Sanitary condition of the District, with Statistics relating to Births and Deaths for the year ending December, 1937

SECTION A.—Statistics and Social conditions of the area.

Area	..	53,869 acres.
Population	..	8,440
Number of Inhabited Houses	..	2,486
Number of families or separate occupiers	..	2,486
Rateable Value	..	£22,283 0s. 0d.
Sum produced by a penny rate	..	£92 15s. 0d.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year:—

Live Births	*Male*	*Female*	*Total.*
Legitimate	78	47	125
Illegitimate	8	8	16—141
Still-Births	*Male*	*Female*	*Total.*
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	1	0	1—8

The Live Birth-Rate was equal to 16·7 per 1,000 of the population which compares favourably with last year's rate of 17·2.

The Live-Birth Rate for England and Wales was 14·9 per 1,000 of the population.

The Still-Birth Rate was 0·94 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 0·60 for England and Wales.

The combined Birth-Rate equals 17·6 per 1,000 of the population

Deaths.

Male.	Female.	Total.
57	82	139

The Death Rate per 1,000 of the population was 16·4 as compared with 15·1 of last year.

The Death-Rate for England and Wales was 12·4 per 1,000 of the population.

Number of persons dying in, or in consequence of child-birth :—

From Sepsis		None
From other causes		None

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—

	Male.	Female.
Legitimate ..	6	2
Illegitimate ..	0	0——Total 8.

The Rate under the above classification was 56·7 per 1,000 births registered as compared with 61·2 of last year The Infant Death Rate for England and Wales was 58 per 1,000 live births.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		19
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		None
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	. ..	None
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	..	None

Cancer.

Accounted for 19 Deaths—5 males and 14 females or a Death Rate of 2·2 per 1,000 of the population.

Respiratory Diseases.

Four only died from Bronchitis. This gives a rate of 0·47 per 1,000 of the population.

Circulatory Diseases.

This class accounted for 52 Deaths, viz.: Cerebral Haemorrhage, 5, Heart Disease, 42, and other Circulatory Diseases, 5, giving a rate of 6·1 per 1,000 of the population.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Nurses from the following centres were available for the District :—Amlwch, 2, Llanerchymedd, Llanfechell, Pentraeth, Llangefni (2), Marian Glas, Llanfaethlu and Rhosybol. One of the two Nurses residing both in Amlwch and Llangefni were fully trained and duly registered whilst the remainder were registered under the Central Midwives Board They all work in conjunction with the County and District Medical Officers of Health, the School Medical Officer, the Tuberculosis Officer, the School Dentist, and with the general Medical Practitioners. All the Nurses were visited and inspected by the County Medical Officer of Health and by the Superintendent of Nurses, who reported on their work and its efficiency or otherwise to the Public Health Committee of the County Council, and also to the respective Local Nursing Associations. The Nurses act as Health Visitors to expectent mothers, and to children up to five years of age.

The Nursing Service is well organised in the district, and some of the Nurses have been provided with small Motor Cars which enable them to pay more frequent visits to their patients.

Laboratory Facilities.

The following are obtainable from the County Medical Officer of Health when required by any general Medical Practitioner :—Antidiphtheritic, anti-meningococcal and strephococcal sera, sterile Diphtheritic Swabs and outfits for widal Tests.

Specimens of Sputum were sent for examination to the laboratory of the King Edward Seventh, Welsh National Memorial Association, and suspected swabs, blood, etc , were examined by Messrs. Evans, Sons, Lescher & Webb, Runcorn, and the Virol Research Laboratories, London.

Samples of water from Public Wells, Shafts, etc., were analysed chemically and bacteriologically by Messrs. Harold Lowe, of Chester. Milk and Food stuffs were taken for analysis by the Inspector of the County Council under the Food and Drugs Act.

Ambulance Facilities.

1. The Ambulance for Infectious Diseases is housed at the Druid Isolation Hospital.
2. The Ambulance for cases of accidents and of Non-infection is garaged at Llangefni.

Both of these are the property of the County Council, but are available for the district.

Nursing Homes

There is no registered Nursing Home in the district.

School Clinics.

All the Elementary Schools were visited by the School Medical Officer, the School Dentist and the District Nurses during the year. The Nurses visit the Schools twice a month to treat children suffering from minor ailments. The School Nurses being also engaged in Midwifery and general nursing in the district, are able to follow up the children from birth until they leave school.

Scholars suffering from visual defects are examined each year and their sight tested by the Ophthalmic Surgeon at definite periods according to the degree of the defect.

The following Schools were closed for periods during the year:—

Owing to an epidemic of Diptheria:—

Rhosybol Council School.

Owing to Scarlet Fever Epidemic:—

Rhosybol Council School. Tynygongl Council School

Owing to Influenza Epidemic:—

Garreglefn Council School.	Tynygongl Council School.
Llanallgo „ „	Llanfairynghornwy Council School.
Cemaes „ „	Llanfechell „ „
Llanbedrgoch „ „	Ty Mawr „ „
Llanddyfan „ „	Penrhoslligwy N.P. School.
Llandyfrydog „ „	Rhosybol Council School.
Llaneugrad „ „	Pensarn „ „

At the Llandyfrydog Council School new wooden covers for the rain water tanks were supplied and also plugs to facilitate the cleaning of the tanks. At the Llanfechell Council School the old privies were converted into pail closets.

The following Schools in the District are supplied with water from the under-mentioned sources:—

	For Washing Purposes.	*For Drinking.*
Llanerchymedd Council School	Well near School	Well
Penysarn do	Pipe from Spring	Pipe from Spring
Llandyfrydog do	Rain Water Tank	Well (450 yards away)
Llanddyfnan do	do	Well (450 yards away

	For Washing Purposes.	*For Drinking.*
Llanbedrgoch Council School	Rain Water Tank	Well (200 yards away)
Garreglefn do	Pump on premises	Well (200 yards away)
Cemaes Bay do	Rain Water Tank	Rain Water Tank.
Llanallgo do	Rain Water Tank	Well (300 yards away)
Llaneugrad do	Rain Water Cistern	Well (200 yards away)
Tynygongl do	Rain Water Tank	Well (400 yards away)
Llanfechell do	Rain Water Storage Tank	Well (200 yards away
Llanfairynghornwy do	Rain Water Tank	Well (100 yards away)
Ty Mawr do	do	Well (250 yards away)
Penrhoslligwy Parochial School	Rain Water Filter	Rain Water Filter
Rhosybol Council School	Rain Water Tank	Well 250 yards away)

Hospitals.

The following Hospitals provided or subsidised by the County Council are available for the District :—

1. Maternity.

A bed in the C.& A. Infirmary, Bangor is subsidised for the treatment of complicated and difficult Maternity Cases in this County. Accommodation for Puerperal Fever cases is provided at the Druid Isolation Hospital In cases where patients are too ill to be removed to hospital the County Authority subject to the approval of the Medical Officer provides a special Nurse for necessitious persons.

2. Tuberculosis.

Penhesgyn (female children) Non-Tubercular.
Llangefni
Bryn Seiont (Caernarvonshire)
The North Wales Sanatorium (Medical and Surgical)
Talgarth Sanatorium (Medical)

3. Infectious Diseases.

The Druid Isolation Hospital, the Small-pox Hospital at Caergeiliog. Both of these Institutions are maintained and administered by the County Council.

4. Childrens General Hospital. None

5. Venereal Diseases.

There is a centre for the treatment of the above at the C. & A. Infirmary, Bangor This joint scheme applies to the whole County.

SECTION C.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

The water supply consists of Pumps, Wells, Springs and water from the drainage of the sub-soil. I received a complaint from the Penrhoslligwy Parish Council concerning an inadequate supply of water in the parish. Accompanied by the Sanitary Inspector I met the Members of the Council to discuss the general position. Two new wells giving an adequate supply were sunk. The result of the analysis of the water will be given later. The question of water supply has engaged the attention of the Council for many years. Schemes prepared by Mr. Henry Adams, M.I.C.E. of London for a supply of water for Cemaes, Benllech, and Moelfre are already in hand. The problem of finding an adequate supply for these districts is a serious one, as the population of the whole area with the exception of Llanerchymedd is steadily increasing. I trust that the difficulty as regards Llanerchymedd has already been solved, the Engineers being satisfied that the springs which have been found will provide an adequate supply. A scheme for providing a supply of water for Benllech and district, including Moelfre, was submitted to the Council by Mr. Henry Adams. Large sums of money have already been spent on boring in the district without attaining the desired result The work is still in progress. The Cemaes Bay water scheme was presented to the Council in June, 1935, and after an enquiry by the Ministry of Health, was approved. This work would have been well advanced by this time, but a delay was caused through a suggestion from the Ministry of Health that the Amlwch Urban District Council should consider a proposal to obtain its water supply from the same source. At present a Joint Committee of both Councils are considering the possibility of acting according to this suggestion.

Five New Wells were sunk during the year and seven were reconditioned. The Public Wells were inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and myself, and notices were issued to Parish Councils to protect the Water Supply by repairing several of them.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Earth Closet Accommodation is the one in most general use in the district with the exception of a few holiday resorts on the coast. There are a few drains in the district. A private sewer at Cemaes and one at Benllech discharge their contents into the sea, The owners of new and re-conditioned houses are encouraged to provide more modern conveniences. There are six Dumping Grounds in the district, viz, one at each of the following places: Cemaes, Benllech, Moelfre, Llanerchymedd, Llanfechell and Tregele. As soon as the problem of an abundant supply of water is solved the Council will consider the important question of a

Sewerage System for the above-mentioned villages. At the seaside resorts several septic tanks and Elsan Chemical Closets are in use.

I received several complaints of Nuisances such as collections of manure, broken drains, etc. These were attended to, and the nuisances removed.

Rivers and Streams.

I received no complaints.

Public Cleansing.

Part-time Scavengers were employed at the following villages: Cemaes, Llanerchymedd, Benllech and Moelfre. Given the goodwill and co-operation of every householder this service could be more effective.

Smoke Abatement.

No action was necessary.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

None that I am aware of.

SECTION D.—Housing.

There has been a steady improvement in the Housing conditions of the district.

Under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926, sixty-two houses were re-conditioned, and under the Housing Act, 1930, twenty-seven houses were re-conditioned by the owners. Under the Housing (Rural Authorities) Act, 1931, sixty-four houses were erected by the Joint Committee of the County Council and the Rural Authority, Under the Rural Act, 1936, five houses have been completed; fifteen are in course of erection and forty-five more are to be built

There is still a shortage of houses in the district, and several owners close their condemned houses in preference to repairing them. There are still a number of old-fashioned houses of the 'Celtic' type with their 'grog lofts' in the district, The Sanitary Inspector and I are of the opinion that these 'grog-lofts' should be removed so that the cubic air space in the sleeping accommodation should be increased, and the lighting and ventilation improved. Several poor cottages which have been condemned are still occupied owing to lack of other accommodation.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

1. (a) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 57

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose 81

2. (a) Number of Dwelling Houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 98

(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose . .. 102

3. Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 30

4. Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 24

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .. 18

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, & 16 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 22

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were tendered fit after service of formal notices :

(a) By Owners 12

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners 0

B Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 0

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners .. . 0

(C) Proceedings under Section 11 and13 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 16

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses Demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 4

(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4 Housing Act 1936.—Part iv. Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of Dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ..	20
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	20
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	90
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ..	0
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ..	14
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	58
(d) Particulars of any cases in which Dwelling Houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	None

None.—

The Council have built 8 new houses at Llanerchymedd, and now are obtaining sites in close proximity to Llanerchymedd for 4 houses in Coedana, and 4 in Rhodogeidio, also 4 in Llandyfrydog, which are for the purpose of relieving overcrowding in those parts.

Moelfre also in the Parish of Llanallgo is having a block of 4 houses built there, and there is ample room on the site to build 12 more for future overcrowding, etc., the same may be said of Llanbadrig, Cemaes, where 8 are now being built on a site that will take 30 houses.

Tenders are also being asked for the erection of 4 houses in the Parish of Rhosybol.

Several Owners of houses have agreed to re-condition their properties, but as yet they have not all been done.

SECTION E.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

The Dairies and Cowsheds within the district were inspected by the Sanitary Inspector during the year. I personally, visited a Cowshed in Llanerchymedd and the necessary improvement there was completed to the satisfaction of your Authority's Officials. We observed a general improvement in the Shippons and Dairies in the district although there are several of which require modernizing.

A license to sell Grade A. (T.T.) Milk was granted to Mr. O. H. Williams of Glasgraig Dairy Farm. I am informed that the quality of Milk sold in the district is good. All necessitous children attending Elementary Schools were supplied with Grade A. (T.T.) Milk free of charge and a large number of other scholars at a fixed reduced price Under the Milk (Special designations) Order 1936, the examination of milk from the district was carried out according to the instructions of the Director of Agriculture of the County Council while the County Council Veterinary Surgeons were responsible for the examination of the Tuberculin Tested Herds.

The Register is kept by the Sanitary Inspector.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925.

Meat and other Foods.

The fourteen Registered Slaughter Houses in the district were periodically inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and all of them were found clean, well ventilated and in a satisfactory sanitary condition. The Register is kept by the Meat Officer.

Adulteration of Food, etc.

No action taken.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

No action taken.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and control over Infectious and other Diseases—Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1937.

Scarlet Fever.

Thirty Cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, Twenty-one were removed to the Isolation Hospital, five treated at their homes owing to the hospital being full, and four refused to go to the Institution. The last-named resided in the Tynygongl district. This illness was confined to the Tynygongl, Llanerchymedd, Rhosybol and Cemaes districts.

Diphtheria.

Of the nine persons notified as suffering from Diphtheria, eight were removed to the Hospital. The remaining case was treated at home owing to the Institution being full.

Antidiphtheritic serum was injected in each case. This disease was prevalent in Rhosybol, Llaneilian and Llanerchymedd, particularly in the first-mentioned parish.

Every precaution in order to arrest the spreading of the disease was adopted

Enteric Fever.

A woman in Cemaes was notified to be suffering from Enteric Fever. The patient, who was a visitor to the district, was taken ill the day after her arrival, and must have contracted her illness previously She had resided in Persia for over 20 years, and while there she had a doubtful attack of enteric fever. She was removed to the Bangor Isolation Hospital.

Influenzal Pneumonia.

Twenty-six persons were notified to be suffering from Influenzal Pneumonia. All of them were treated at home. The mortality rate was high in persons over 50 years of age

Peurperal Pyrexia.

One case was notified, and was removed to the Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One child was notified, and removed to the Hospital.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	30	21	0
Diptheria	9	8	0
Influenzal Pneumonia	26	0	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	0
Enteric Fever	1	1	0

Prevention of Blindness.

One isolated case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was reported.

The Blind Persons Act, 1920, is administered very efficiently through the agency of the North Wales Society for the Blind,

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1937.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
15	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	1	2	0	0	3	1	0	0
35	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards.	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Total	4	4	1	1	4	2	0	1

Of the New Cases notified five were removed to Hospital, one was too ill to be removed, and one who was 70 years of age refused Institutional treatment. The two Non-respiratory cases were School children who suffered from Tubercular glands of the neck. All cases were promptly notified to and examined by the Tuberculosis Officer who attends at Llangefni once a week and at Amlwch once a month. All contacts were examined, and old cases received domiciliary treatment, and were kept under observation. In all cases of death or removal of the patient the infected houses and clothing, including bedding were dlsinfected.

The number on the Register at the end of the year was as follows :—

Pulmonary ..	Males 12	Females 11
Non-Pulmonary	Males 7	Females 5

No action was taken under the Public Health Act, 1925 Section 62.

Bakehouses.

These were inspected and where necessary notices for cleansing, lime-washing, etc., were issued.

Workshops and Factories.

The number on the Register is twenty eight. All of them were visited and inspected and verbal notices to attend to minor defects given.

I append the report of the Building Surveyor and the Sanitary and Housing Inspector.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council and also the Clerk and the Sanitary Inspector for their kindness, courtesy and valuable assistance so willingly given to me at all times and which I fully appreciate.

I have the honour to be Mrs. Morris and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS JONES,

Medical Officer.

Report of the Building Surveyor, Inspector of Nuisances.

Rural District Council of Twrcelyn.

Inspector's Report for the year :—

Building Works, &c.

Plans submitted to the Council :-

	Number.
New Houses	9
Bungalows	14
Additions .. .	11
Shops	2
Workshops	0
Bake-houses, alterations, new ovens, etc. ..	4
Cowsheds	0
Bath rooms	2
Motor Garages	2
Halls	2
Drainage	2
Temporary erections approved for from 3 to 5 years	12
Camping Sites	2
Total	62

General.

Number of complaints written	18
Prelim. Notices	30
Notices own investigation	25
Statutory notices .. .	10
Personal notices given by self on District Inspection, Removal of accumulation	40
Notices for provision of satisfactory Earth Closet accommodation	3
Notices for cleansing same	3
Notices drains out of order	6
Old drains cleansed and opened	10
Cesspools, cesspits, notices to cleanse	2
Notices, defective gulleys	7

Bakehouses.

Periodically inspected and several notices issued for cleansing, lime-washing, etc.

Slaughter Houses.

No. in District 14

A Register is kept, and they are periodically inspected, and Notices issued for cleansing, lime-washing, etc.

Notices issued re-Slaughter-houses 14

Dairies.

The Cowsheds and Dairies are regularly inspected, and much work is done from time to time to render them satisfactory. The Milk-cans are inspected in transit.

There is one Grade "A" T. T. Dairy in the District, samples are sent as required each month, and the result submitted to the Ministry

Notices issued re-dairies 14

Water Supply.

The supply of water in the District for Domestic purposes is mainly from Public Wells and private ones in their own grounds. They are inspected from time to time by the Medical Officer and myself, and an analysis is made of the water in any case which becomes suspicious.

Notices have been issued by the Medical Officer for various works to be done to certain Wells.

The Wells this year kept up their supply very satisfactorily, many Wells have been re-constructed and made to yield a larger supply, and Pumps attached to same.

At Benllech Bay, Cemaes, Llanerchymedd and Moelfre, schemes are in hand which will put the water supply of these Districts on a satisfactory basis.

5 New Wells have been sunk in the following Districts:

2 in Llanfechell, 2 in Penrhoslligwy, 1 in Llechcynfarwydd, and several others are to be sunk. I am glad to say that the yield in these new wells is very satisfactory, giving adequate supplies.

7 Wells have been re-conditioned and put into order in various parts of the District, there are others which have to be attended to.

A joint Committee of the County Council and Rural Districts exists to take measures with regards to water supplies.

Disinfections.

By spraying with formaldehyde and fumigating with formalin, sealing up rooms, destroying bedding, etc., by burning where considered necessary.

	Number
Diphtheria	24
Tuberculosis	18
Cancer	0
Scarlet Fever	65
Schools	4
Typhoid	1
Other Diseases, including verminous ..	3
Total	115

Workshops.

These are visited from time to time, no new ones have been occupied this year, the number being 28.

Housing.

The general Housing conditions are improved as a number of dwellings have been erected in the various Parishes by the joint County Council Committee.

Particulars of Housing in the Twrcelyn Rural District:—

	Number of Houses.
Housing (Rural Worker's) Act, 1926.	
Houses re-conditioned under the above. ..	62
Housing Act, 1930.	
Houses re-conditioned under this Act, by Owners. ..	27
Housing (Rural Authorities) Act, 1931.	
Houses erected by joint Committee of Anglesey County Council and Rural Authority. ..	64
Housing Act, 1936.	
Number of Houses actually completed ..	4
Number of Houses in course of erection ..	15
Number of Houses to be erected ..	45

Overcrowding:—

The overcrowding has somewhat eased on account of shuffling about and occupying new Council houses and re-conditioned houses especially where two houses have been made into one. Measures have been taken to provide new houses for overcrowding and sites have been selected for same in several parishes.

I am Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

W. F. BRINDLE,

Building Surveyor, Inspector, etc.